

12 September 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Human Resources Committee

SUBJECT: Sixth OSCOL Meeting

1. The HRC ad hoc working group on open source collection (OSCOL) met for the sixth time as a full group on 8 September 1978. In between the fifth and sixth meetings several working group members interviewed analysts at the Army's Foreign Science and Technology Center (FSTC) at Charlottesville, while others talked with analysts at the Naval Intelligence Support Center (NISC) at Suitland. These latter discussions (FSTC and NISC) generated some ideas for improvement in the DoD's S&T Intelligence Information Services Program (STIISP) about which more by separate memorandum.

2. This sixth meeting lasted all day, on four items of business:

a. Dave Laux, Director of the Commerce Department's Office of Intelligence Liaison, briefed working group members on Commerce's evolving relationship with the Intelligence Community, its role as a user of open source information and finished intelligence products, and the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) as a vehicle for getting intelligence into the public domain,

b. [] of the Scientific and Technical Intelligence Committee's Secretariat (STIC/Sec), briefed us on the findings of the STIC working group looking into S&T collection problems. In particular, coordination was effected on a forthcoming recommendation by the STIC and by our own OSCOL working group that an OSCOL "community" orientation course be developed to acquaint interested parties with who is doing what in the OSCOL world, and particularly to show analysts how to task OSCOL collectors.



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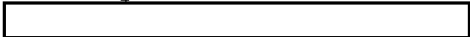
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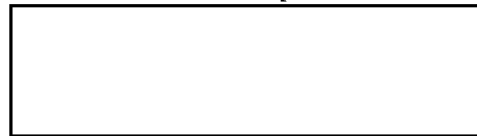
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3. The undersigned reminded working group members that we had initially set a goal for ourselves to conclude our work, make our recommendations and disband by the end of September. That being the case, I recommended that we close down further inquiry and begin to draft recommendations. This drew immediate and almost unanimous dissent by the working group members, who argued that we are only now sufficiently educated about who is doing what for whom, to identify specific issues that might be addressed and resolved by the working group itself.

 suggested that if HRC members were pressuring for creation of the permanent HRC OSCOL unit along organizational lines, then why not go ahead and create the HRC "OSCOL Steering Group" to oversee the continuing efforts of this substantive working group. It was agreed that the undersigned would discuss the idea with Chairman, HRC.

4. It was agreed also that the working group members would begin now to provide the undersigned with their views about specific OSCOL problems, issues and opportunities for improvement that are deserving of working group attention in the weeks immediately ahead. The undersigned is to pull these together into a draft action list for consideration at the next meeting which would be scheduled for 29 September.



OSCOL Coordinator

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